

Incoming C0150025 #3079

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F. S PRINCE (1910-1991) DAVID S GELDZAHLER (1932-1994)

ROBERT M YEATES (RETIRED)

† ALSO ADMITTED IN CALIFORNIA ‡ ALSO ADMITTED IN IDAHO ^ ALSO ADMITTED IN NEVADA € ALSO ADMITTED IN TEXAS

November 2, 2010

Via Hand Delivery

Utah Division of Oil, Gas & Mining Attn: Suzanne Steab 1594 West North Temple, Suite 1210 P. O. Box 145801 Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-5801

Payment of Assessments – Bear Canyon Mine, C/015/0025

Dear Ms. Steab:

Re:

Enclosed please find three separate checks in the amounts described below in payment of the following proposed assessments issued by the Utah Division of Oil, Gas & Mining (the "Division"):

- 1. Notice of Violation #10031: Issued November 5, 2008 Assessment dated January 29, 2009 in the amount of **\$1,870**.
- 2. Notice of Violation #10037: Issued April 21, 2009 Assessment dated May 14, 2009 in the amount of **\$3,410**.
- 3. Notice of Violation #10068: Issued September 22, 2010 Assessment dated October 11, 2010 in the amount of **\$990**.

Please note that Notice of Violation #10066, issued August 30, 2010 with a proposed assessment in the amount of \$2,310 is the subject of an assessment conference scheduled for November 18, 2010. Further, please note that the proposed assessment of \$1,760

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dated March 19, 2009 in connection with Cessation Order #10034 is the subject of an ongoing appeal before the Board of Oil, Gas and Mining.

You will note that the payment of the identified assessments is being made by Kenneth A. Rushton, Chapter 7 Bankruptcy Trustee for C. W. Mining Company. While the Trustee understands and acknowledges that C. W. Mining has been the designated permittee for the Bear Canyon Mine at the relevant times of the identified violations, it should be noted that violations #10031 and #10037 were committed by Hiawatha Coal Company while it was in wrongful possession of the mine. Notwithstanding the Trustee's appointment in November 2008, Hiawatha Coal Company refused to recognize the Trustee's authority to possess and operate the mine for the benefit of the bankruptcy estate of C. W. Mining. Of further note, violation #10068 occurred after the Trustee transferred possession of the mine to Castle Valley Mining LLC, an affiliate of Rhino Energy LLC. In both cases, the Trustee has not been in a position to prevent the identified violations. Nevertheless, as the holder of the permit, the Trustee has elected to pay the identified assessments under protest, specifically reserving all rights that the Trustee might have to recover, or obtain reimbursement for, the payments made and further subject to further orders of the Bankruptcy Court.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call.

Sincerely

PRINCE YEATES & GELDZAHLER

Christopher A. Jones, Esq.

Cc: Kenneth A. Rushton, Trustee

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KENNETH A RUSHTON, TRUSTEE

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